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**NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT
MINUTES OF THE OCULAR TISSUE ADVISORY GROUP MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 14TH JUNE 2017 AT NHS BLOOD AND TRANSPLANT,
FILTON CENTRE, BRISTOL BS34 7QH**

PRESENT:

Mr Derek Tole	Chairman
Prof John Armitage	Bristol Eye Bank and Head, Ocular R&D, NHSBT Tissue and Eye Services
Mr Kyle Bennett	National Tissue Bank Manager, NHSBT Tissue and Eye Services
Prof Fiona Carley	Manchester Eye Bank
Dr Akila Chandrasekar	Consultant in Transfusion Medicine - NHSBT, Tissue and Eye Services
Prof Dave Collett	Associate Director – Statistics & Clinical Audit, NHSBT
Mr Ewan Craig	Regional Representative – West Midlands
Mr Andrew Chung	Regional Representative – Yorkshire and Humberside
Helen Gillan	General Manager, NHSBT Tissue and Eye Services
Mr Nabil Habib	Regional Representative – South West
Ms Cathy Hopkinson	Statistics & Clinical Studies, NHSBT
Mr Parwez Hossain	Regional Representative – South West
Mr Mark Jones	Statistics & Clinical Studies, NHSBT
Mr Geert Kuit	Moorfields Eye Bank
Mr Vinod Kumar	Regional Representative – Wales
Mr Frank Larkin	Regional Representative – London
Dr Ulrike Paulus	Consultant Haematologist, NHSBT, Tissue and Eye Services
Mr Jeremy Prydal	Regional Representative - East Midlands
Mr Madhavan Rajan	Regional Representative – East of England
Ms Amanda Ranson	National Donation Manager – NHSBT, Tissue and Eye Services
Mr Michael Tappin	Regional Representative – South East Coast
Ms Emma Winstanley	Donation Pathway Manager – NHSBT, Tissue and Eye Services
Dr Isaac Zambrano	Manchester Eye Bank – NHSBT, Tissue & Eye Services

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jo Galloway (minutes)	Senior PA to Helen Gillan – NHSBT Tissue & Eye Services
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ACTION

1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Dr Iain Bryce, Prof John Dark, Prof John Forsythe, Prof Sue Fuggle, Mr Damian Lake, Prof Johnny Moore, Ms Anne Sheldon, Anthony Snape, David Stagg, Mike Winter, Jacqueline Newby, Rutger Ploeg, Frank Larkin

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES OF THE OCULAR TISSUE ADVISORY GROUP – WEDNESDAY 25 JANUARY 2017 – OTAG(M)(16)2

3.1 Accuracy

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate record following the inclusion of the amendments below:

Page 6, Item 6.1

- Fifth line – There should ideally be an age gap of ‘at least 30 years’ to be amended to ‘age matching to a maximum of 30 years.’

3.2 Action Points

Action points have been completed or are listed as an agenda item.

AP1- Standard acknowledgement for electronic ordering/fax for eyes:

KB reported that all orders by fax are now acknowledged. The email trail for organs is now well established and is working well. KB encouraged the use of email using “nhs.net” which will also be more secure. He will look into setting up a more user friendly order form.

K Bennett

AP2- Update on PbR Tariffs: See 4.1.1

AP3 – KB has spoken with Nigel Jordan and confirmed that if a referral comes through geographically near to East Grinstead Eye Bank then that referral will be passed onto them. This procedure has been in place since February 2017.

AP4 – Nigel Jordan still to speak with Holly Mason re sharing experiences. Short movie to be shown at next meeting.

AP5, 6, 7, 8, 9, to be discussed at next meeting

AP10 – Corneas Issued & Not Used: See 5.1 TES Update

3.3 Matters arising, not separately identified

There were no other matters arising.

4 OCULAR TISSUE ADVISORY GROUP

4.1 Chairman’s Report

4.1.1 Update on PbR tariffs – OTAG(17)2

DT discussed old and new tariffs. DALK, DSEK, Corneal Collagen Cross Linking.

4.1.2 Referral to Treatment Times – 18 weeks

Hybrid should be 18 weeks + 18 weeks. Need to address the issue of single service unit and tertiary service. KB stated that from when a request for the tissue is received to when tissue is available, is 4-6 weeks.

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4.1.3 Corneas for Training

Problems for HTA licence for external premises. JA is in discussion with HTA. Ian Bateman will need to be involved with the Ocular Patient Group Meeting. Can use HTA licence from pathology if mortuary is in place. It is dependent on the hospital. HTA are refusing licences for corneas for training. Cannot keep tissue for more than 48 hours without a licence. KB stated that they have no problem with the amount of tissue required but it's the licence for training that is needed.

4.1.4 Patient Meeting

Patient away day scheduled for 13th September 2017.

4.1.5 Corneal Transplant Follow Up Forms

DT entering follow up forms on line and other people are being invited to do this also. Unable to merge current forms with NTxD but £30 million is being invested by NHSBT to improve systems.

5.0 NHSBT TISSUE AND EYE SERVICES (TES) REPORT

5.1 General Overview

HG provided a detailed overview based on the presentation.

- Need consistency every day for referrals
- Lots of work being done to changes attitudes to donation

Hospitals are selected by geographical area and relationships with coroners and bereavement teams. Looking at number of deaths and time to travel. Forms are electronic and then screened by NRC. This method is evidenced based and has had an ethical review.

DT – It is worthy of publication as good example to share with other countries. JA - This should be shared with EATB as it shows how the co-ordination is proving to be successful.

Corneas issued and not used: KB has been looking a validating current data as data was showing around 500 corneas issued and not used. A number of discrepancies have been found:

- Corneas not issued from Filton and Manchester Eye Banks are being captured as issued and not used
- Open transplant accounts are captured as issued and not used
- A number of transplant records have been received for unknown patients
- A number of transplants have been incorrectly linked (based on received transplant forms).

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Work is being done to correct these discrepancies.

- NTxD is being updated.
- Open transplant records being reviewed and amended
- Unknown patients being investigated

There is a need for a SOP for surgeons, in order for them to report if any details change for patient list.

SEC will have codes which should help with specifying reasons for issuing and not used. Looking to implement in Sept 2017. A 2D bar code has been developed for NHSBT. This is eye readable. Stickers for the patient's notes will be provided and also a transplant record form.

KB sending slides over to Mark Batterbury. KB will circulate labels for members to see.

If procured in Moorfields and used in Moorfields then this label isn't required.

DSAEK carried out in Manchester. DMEK planned for Filton. Project commenced. Plans to implement service Jan-Feb 2018. Pilot to commence around Dec 2017.

AR - we are looking at possibility of retrieving corneas in situ.

5.1.1 **Imported Corneas – HG/DT**

A letter has been sent to 145 surgeons - 108 responses, which equates to a 70% response rate. 7 different institutions imported corneas which is approximately 10% of all issued corneas. Surgeons should be coming to NHSBT, first prior to imported corneas.

5.1.2 **Eye Retrieval Schemes (ERS) - AR**

AR gave an update based on the presentation.

5.2 **Update on National Referral Centre/Super Centres - EW**

EW provided an update based on the presentation.

EW was advised that she needs to present this model to the European Blood Alliance meeting in November 2017. Abstracts to be submitted in September

E Winstanley

5.3 **TEPSOD – EW**

5.3.1 **Update**

TEPSOD meet twice per year next meeting 6 July 2017. Need to increase

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figures from organ donors. Figure is currently around 48%.

5.3.2 Results of New Training for SNOD's as Specialist Requestors

VS to give update at next meeting for specialist requestor role.

5.3.3 TEPSOD Activity - MJ

MJ gave TEPSOD activity based on presentation.

5.4 Eye Banks - JA

Pre-cut validation study found 499 been pre-cut. Manchester Eye Bank was commended for maintaining pre-cut service whilst Filton was being set up.

2016 - 5 reportable graft failures from pre-cut. There has been 3 graft failures so far for 2017. Can state no way related to tissue quality. Will take to governance to decide what is to be done long term. Manchester Eye Bank currently looking at follow up data to provide figures for next OTAG meeting. KB will be able to look at that with EU code.

5.4.1 European Transplant Registry

Core data set has been agreed as single 2 year follow up. Data surgeons enter in UK will automatically upload to European. This will also capture limbal stem cell transplants. The EU are interested to see how many grafts are being completed in Europe. EU commission looking to remove technical parts of directive. JA looking to start work on this imminently.

5.4.3 DMEK Update – KB

Please see 5.1 TES General Update

6 The Royal College of Ophthalmologists OTTSG Report

To be reported at next meeting

7 Statistics & Clinical Studies Report

7.1 Conference, Presentations, Current and Future Work - DC

Annual activity report coming out in July. In final stages of proof reading. KB can get accurate figure on issued. Will know number based on transplant reporting forms. Best to slot in figures once report is published to ensure accuracy. Over 20 publications since 2008. CTFS work has been carried out.

DC is retiring. DT wished him well and commended him on his publications which have greatly supported OTAG.

8 Clinical Governance Update - UP

UP gave Clinical Governance update based on the presentation.

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9. SED/Amniotic Membrane Update - AC

AC gave an overview based on the presentation.

- Issued 896 amnion batches
- 1321 batches of serum eye drops processed

10. JPAC/SaBTO Report - AC

In 2016, SaBTO set up a working group specifically to review the evidence base for donor selection, deferral and exclusion in the UK in relation to social behaviours that may increase the risk of acquiring specific blood-borne infections; HIV, HBV, HCV and Syphilis. In addition the group was asked to review the risk that these infections could be acquired following procedures that involve piercing of the skin. The recommendations were accepted by SaBTO in June 2017 and the report is awaiting approval by UK health departments.

11. The Single European Code for Tissues & Cells Update – KB

Please see 5.1 TES General Update

12. AOB

None registered

13. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 31st January 2018 Royal College of Ophthalmologists, London